

GOVERNMENT OF TALANGANA
ABSTRACT

Forest Conservation Act, 1980 – Diversion of **409.53 Ha** (387.13 ha Horizontal area as per ETS & DGPS survey) of forest land in Keshavapur RF, Medchal-Malkajgiri District for Construction of 10 TMC reservoir at **Keshavapuram** with associated components under Godavari river source for drinking water requirements to the Hyderabad City in favour of HMWS&SB, Hyderabad – **Final (Stage-II)** approval accorded – Orders - Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No. 8

Dated: 18-02-2021.

Read the following:-

1. From the PCCF, TS, Hyd., Lr.No.6564/2017/FCA-1/TS, dt.29.06.2020.
2. State Govt. Lr.No.1430/For.I(1)/2020, Dt:30.06.2020.
3. From GoI, MoEF&CC, New Delhi, F.No.8-08/2020-FC, Dt.22.09.2020
4. From the PCCF, TS, Hyd., Rc.No.6564/2017/FCA-1,Dt.22.12.2020.
5. Govt.Lr.No.1430/For.I(1)/2020,Dt.22.12.2020.
6. From GoI, MoEF&CC, New Delhi, F.No.8-08/2020-FC, Dt.15.01.2021.

O R D E R

In his letter 1st read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad has submitted a proposal for diversion of **409.53 Ha** (387.13 ha Horizontal area as per ETS & DGPS survey) of forest land in Keshavapur RF, Medchal-Malkajgiri District for Construction of 10 TMC reservoir at **Keshavapuram** with associated components under Godavari river source for drinking water requirements to the Hyderabad City in favour of HMWS&SB, Hyderabad.

2. In the letter 2nd read above, the proposal in para-1 above was forwarded to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi, for granting approval under section -2 of the Forest (C) Act, 1980.

3. In their letter 3rd read above, the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi, have granted in-principle (Stage-I) approval for the above proposal, subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated thereof.

4. In the letter 5th read above, the Government of Telangana have sent the report of compliance on the conditions stipulated by GoI, as submitted by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad in her letter 4th read above, to the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi for according necessary approval.

5. In the letter 6th read above, Central Government have granted final (Stage-II) approval for the proposal in para 1 above, under Section- 2 of the Forest (C) Act, 1980, subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated therein.

6. Accordingly, Government hereby accord **final (Stage-II)** approval for diversion of **409.53 Ha** (387.13 ha Horizontal area as per ETS & DGPS survey) of forest land in Keshavapur RF, Medchal -Malkajgiri District for Construction of 10 TMC reservoir at **Keshavapuram** with associated

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components under Godavari river source for drinking water requirements to the Hyderabad City in favour of HMWS&SB, Hyderabad, subject to the following conditions:-

A. Condition to be compiled prior to handing over the forest land:

- i. The State Government shall ensure that all non-forest land (identified and approved for raising compensatory afforestation (CA) are transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department, and notified as Reserved Forest or Protected Forest under of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section (s) of the local Forest Act;
- ii. The proposed forest land i.e. **409.53 ha** shall be handed over to the User Agency only after when the User Agency has acquired the required non-forest land, if any, for the project;
- iii. The State Government shall upload the kml files of the forest area under diversion and non-forest area (notified as RF/PF) and degraded forest land identified and accepted for raising compensatory afforestation, in the E-Green Watch portal of FSI, before handing over of forest land to the user agency;
- iv. The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of obtaining prescribed certificate (alongwith requisite annexures) from the concerned District Collector;
- v. The User Agency may obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;
- vi. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;

B. Conditions to be compiled after handing over the land:

- i. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. The State Government shall ensure that the minimum number of trees / plants / poles will be removed and in any case not more than 1,39,274 and the trees should be felled under the supervision of the State Forest Department;
- iii. The felling of trees shall be restricted to FRL-4 meter only and felling of trees shall be carried out by the State Forest Department. Number of trees to be removed shall be kept at barest minimum during the execution of the project;
- iv. Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall implement afforestation measures along the roads within the area diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost;
- v. The User Agency shall undertake afforestation along the periphery of Reservoir / Canals in consultation with the Forest Department;
- vi. The User Agency shall provide free water from the project for all forestry related activities;

- vii. The User Agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- viii. The State Government shall ensure that the Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) plan of the project shall be implemented under the supervision of State Department at the project cost;
- ix. The State Government shall ensure to implement the approved Wildlife Mitigation Plan as approved by the competent authority;
- x. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- xi. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than as approved under FC Act.
- xii. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Government of India;
- xiii. No labour camps shall be established on the forest land;
- xiv. The sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from some legal source;
- xv. No additional or new path will be constricted inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- xvi. No damage to the flora and fauna of the area shall be caused;
- xvii. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less;
- xviii. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area;
- xix. The State Government shall ensure that the compliance report of this approval is uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)
- xx. The Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per extant provisions made under the FC act, 1980 and FC Rules;
- xxi. Any other condition that the MoEF&CC may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife shall be carried with by the State Government and user agency; and
- xxii. The State Government and user agency shall ensure compliance to all conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval letter dated 22.09.2020 for which undertakings have been obtained from the user agency and also the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, relevant Hon'ble Court order (S) and NGT order (S), if any, pertaining to this project for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad shall take necessary action, accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

A.SANTHI KUMARI,
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Telangana State, Hyderabad

Copy to:

The Director General, Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests
and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division),
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,
New Delhi 110 003.

The Addl. Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, (Central), Govt. of India,
Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional office, Panagal
Building, 8th floor, Saidapet, Chennai -600 015.

The HMWS&SB, Hyderabad.
SC/SF.

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER